

PRESS RELEASE

Announcing the results of the 2022 New England Thunderbolt Prize for Crime Writing

The New England Writers' Centre is delighted to announce the results of the 2022 New England Thunderbolt Prize for Crime Writing. The New England Thunderbolt Prize for Crime Writing is a national award for unpublished short-form crime writing in three main categories: Fiction, Non-Fiction and Poetry. There are also three special awards: New England Award for a writer resident in New England; Emerging Author Award, for an unpublished writer over 18; and Youth Award, for writers under 18 years.

The competition is managed and promoted by the New England Writers' Centre and supported by New England businesses. Our sponsors this year include the New England Brewing Co., Golden Orb Creative, the University of New England, Faculty of Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences and Education; Burnet's Books, and the Armidale Branch of the Australian Decorative & Fine Arts Society.

We are excited to announce the winners of the 2022 New England Thunderbolt Prize for Crime Writing, as follows:

Fiction: David Grey (NSW) for *Dear Sir*, .

Non-Fiction: David Vernon (ACT) for *Justice*.

Poetry: Paris Rosemont (NSW), for *A Cautionary Tale*.

New England Award: Jane O'Sullivan (NSW) for *I Witness*.

Emerging Author Award: Dan Davies (NSW) for *Red Flags*

Youth Award: Kiki Chen (NSW) for *Regret*.

Now in its 10th year, the Thunderbolt Prize for Crime Writing attracted a strong field of entries from all over Australia, by writers both published and unpublished.

It was exciting to see the Youth category so well-represented, with strong submissions receiving commendations from the judges. A number of Highly Commended and Commended citations were awarded by judges in every category, with successful entries coming from all over Australia.

The New England Writers' Centre warmly congratulates all the winners, as well as everyone who received Highly Commended and Commended citations. A full list of winners, as well as all those highly commended and commended, is attached.

Judges this year were: Benjamin Stevenson (Fiction); Dan Box (Non-Fiction); Christopher (Kit) Kelen (Poetry), and Belinda Murrell (Youth). All entries were judged anonymously, and the New England Award and Emerging Author Awards were chosen based on final commendations across all categories. All successful entries, along with judges' reports, will be published on the New England Writers' Centre website.

The New England Writers' Centre wishes to thank our wonderful judges and the generous sponsorship of local businesses for helping to make 2022 another successful year for the Thunderbolt Prize. And a big thank you to all entrants!

More information about the Thunderbolt Prize for Crime Writing can be found at on our website: [2022 New England Thunderbolt Prize Winners](#).

2022 New England Thunderbolt Prize Winners & Commended

Fiction

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First Prize: "Dear Sir," by David Grey (NSW)

Highly Commended: "The Turning Tide" by Bob Topping (QLD)

Commended: "Red Flags" by Dan Davies (NSW)



**NEW ENGLAND
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Non-Fiction

First Prize: "Justice" by David Vernon (ACT)

Highly Commended: "Lunch with Andrew Kaljzich" by Pippa Kay (NSW)

Commended: "Jungle Beast" by Robin Hammond (NSW)



Golden Orb Creative

Poetry

First Prize: "A Cautionary Tale" by Paris Rosemont (NSW)

Highly Commended: "Guillotine Act" by Jennifer Harrison (VIC)

Commended: "Six O'Clock" by Dr Verity Laughton (SA)

Commended: "Missing the Ruby" by Richenda Rudman (VIC)

Commended: "I Witness" by Jane O'Sullivan (NSW)

UNE
University of
New England

The Youth Award

First Prize: "Regret" by Kiki Chen (NSW)

Highly Commended: "League of Criminals" by Ebony Hill (VIC)

Commended: "Encounter" by Aaron Lee (NSW)



ADFAS
ARMIDALE
AUSTRALIAN
DECORATIVE
& FINE ARTS
SOCIETIES

The New England Award

"I Witness" by Jane O'Sullivan (NSW)



NEWC

New England Writers' Centre

The Emerging Authors Award

"Red Flags" by Dan Davies (NSW)



Burnet's Books

Good books bought and sold